



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

BY MARGARET A. NEALL,
Corresponding Secretary.

The Philadelphia School for Occupational Therapy was organized in the spring of 1918, under the auspices of the Central Branch of the National League for Woman's Service. During the preceding winter many applications had been received at the Arts and Crafts Guild of Philadelphia for classes in handicrafts such as were needed by aides in reconstruction work. These continued applications made the need for a Philadelphia School of Occupational Therapy apparent, and at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Guild, it was resolved to write to Teachers College, New York, for a program of the work done there, and to make a list of required crafts with volunteer teachers from the guild offering their services and the use of their studios to the students of reconstruction work. This offer was formally made to the Central Branch of the National League for Woman's Service, and enthusiastically welcomed by its chairman, Mrs. H. Gordon McCouch, and by her presented to Mrs. Edgar H. Baird, state chairman of the league, and Mrs. A. H. Reeve, state chairman of reconstruction work. Under its supervision, preliminary investigations were made as to what if anything was being done along these lines in Philadelphia, the policy of the league being to avoid duplication of effort and secure coöperation whenever possible.

Occupational training must not be confused with vocational training through which the disabled men are restored to a wage-earning plane. Though both occupational training and vocational training deal with re-education, and though they will inevitably overlap somewhat in their application, occupational training is essentially a form of medical treatment administered under direction of physician or surgeon, while the other is a form of technical training selected by the man himself, under the advice of workshop instructors, with a view to financial returns.

A canvas of the arts schools and institutions discovered a condition of readiness to work, but mystification as to what direction

their efforts should take. The School of Industrial Art, the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, the Graphic Sketch Club, the Plastic Club, all whole-heartedly and enthusiastically endorsed the suggestion of the Arts and Crafts Guild and of Mrs. F. W. Rockwell, as amplified and developed by the Central Branch of the National League, and by their generous and valuable coöperation made the scheme of a Philadelphia School of Occupational Therapy possible. The Philadelphia physicians no less than the arts institutions were most helpful, encouraging from the beginning and unselfishly giving their time and energies towards putting the proposition on a practical basis.

The school opened on October 2. As the applicants are coming in daily, no accurate figures can be given of the number entered for the first term. Within a short period after the announcement of the school had been made in the newspapers, nearly two hundred requests had been received for circulars and application blanks and it is felt that the original limit of a class of forty-two may have to be extended. All applicants must be at least twenty-three years of age, either native or allied born, and possessed of suitable personality. The directors reserve the right to refuse admission to any applicant, and to grant admission only upon probation. The course, as nearly as it can be outlined in advance, owing to reasons given later on, is as follows:

THE COURSE

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Lectures on psychology and the method of teaching disabled and invalid pupils; hospital conduct and personal hygiene.

Hospital Practice: Extensive practice in several Philadelphia hospitals, under conditions similar to those of the military hospitals, to give experience and self-confidence to the prospective aides.

Hours: Hours will be from 9 to 12 a. m. and 1 to 4 p. m. for five days, and until 12 m. on Saturdays.

Certificates: Certificates of Graduation will be issued to all students successfully completing the course. Graduates will also receive confidential letters of recommendation.

DESIGN AND CRAFTSMANSHIP

Applied Design to include the principles of design and the theory of color as applied to the subjects taught in this course.

Weaving to include hand looms, bead looms and simple rug and mat making, etc.

Basketry to include reed work, etc.

Block Printing applied to both paper and textiles.

Woodwork: whittling and carving.

Pottery: modeling.

Knitting, crocheting, needlework, rack knitting and beadwork.

Metal Work in its simplest forms.

Bookbinding: Simple book construction, such as portfolios, boxes, etc.

This Course includes Occupational Therapy as applied to the Deaf, Blind and Tuberculous.

As arrangements now stand, the classes in craft work will be divided between the School of Industrial Art, Broad and Pine streets, and the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, Broad and Master Streets. Both institutions have offered not only the use of their plants, equipment and floor space, but also the services of their teaching staff.

The interest and enterprise of the physicians have opened the wards of well-known hospitals to the aides for practice, and lectures on educational psychology, hospital routine, hygiene and sanitation, as applied to reconstruction work, will be given as the course proceeds. Owing to the need which the government has discovered for a wider field of knowledge for the aides, the course has been extended to eight months, with a provision that those already partially prepared, such as teachers and college graduates, along kindred lines, may complete it within a shorter period, the idea being to make it as intensive as possible.

In response to the government's notice of August 8—requiring expert knowledge along one or more of the following lines: Social worker; library service; teacher of adolescents or adults in industrial and fine arts, general science, English, commercial branches, free-hand drawing and design, mechanical drawing, telegraphy and signalling, French, manual training, agriculture (gardening and floriculture), music plays and games, mathematics (commercial and industrial)—the educational committee has offered all necessary facilities to the aides for these branches, and Mr. Gummere of the Penn Charter School has given his valued coöperation. In addition, facilities are given to the aides for practice in teaching the blind at the Overbrook Institution; lip reading experts will supervise the special training needed for the teaching of the deaf; and special training will be given for the tuberculous.

Mr. Fleisher of the Graphic Sketch Club has offered those prem-

ises for the use of the aides, and the School of Industrial Arts has given them a club room where it is hoped, in spite of scattered classes, to foster the school spirit which is such an important factor in maintaining high standards for work.

Mrs. H. Gordon McCouch, chairman of the Central Branch of the National League for Woman's Service, is chairman of the board of directors of the school, the members of which serve on the various special committees which are purposely kept as small as possible in order to accomplish the maximum amount of work with the minimum waste of time. The directors of the school are anxious to make the aides as valuable as possible to the government, and to do this the curriculum is kept more or less elastic in order that new courses may be added or unnecessary ones eliminated as the Surgeon General's experience may dictate. At the suggestion of the government the program tentatively made out last spring has already been twice enlarged, and the committee on curriculum is looking forward to further modifications or extensions as the course advances and new requirements are discovered.

While this school cannot guarantee positions to its students, the fact that the government is already sending out an urgent appeal for aides in military hospitals in this country and the fact that General Pershing has called for one thousand aides for service abroad, seem to give fair assurance that a valuable aide will find an immediate call for her services. The tuition fee for the course is the nominal one of fifty dollars, and it is hoped that several scholarships will make it possible for any one having the requisite qualifications, to attend the school.